



# ***NEWS RELEASE***

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***FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
June 12, 2006***

## ***Former BIA Police Officer to Serve Seven Years for Domestic Assault***

**BISMARCK** - United States Attorney Drew H. Wrigley announced that on June 9, 2006, **Philip F. LaVallie** of Belcourt, North Dakota, was sentenced before United States District Court Chief Judge Daniel L. Hovland on a charge of assault by striking, beating, and wounding and a charge of use of a firearm during the commission of crime of violence.

**LaVallie**, 33, pleaded guilty on March 15, 2006. The incident occurred on December 28, 2005, on the Turtle Mountain Indian Reservation. **LaVallie** attacked a male victim knocking him to the ground. **LaVallie**, who was wearing work boots, proceeded to kick the man in the face. The victim suffered a black eye and split nose. After the man left the residence, **LaVallie** attacked a female victim, his wife, striking her in the face and body with his fists and kicking her, again using his work boots. **LaVallie** retrieved a 9mm handgun and struck his wife in the head with the handgun. She suffered bruising all over her body and an open wound on her head.

Judge Hovland sentenced **LaVallie** to serve seven years in Federal prison, the statutory minimum mandatory sentence, since a firearm was involved in the crime. **LaVallie** will be on three years of supervised release following his release. **LaVallie** was ordered to pay restitution of \$4,080.73 and to pay a \$110 special assessment to the Crime Victim's Fund.

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LaVallie News Release

June 12, 2006

Page 2

The case was investigated by the Bureau of Indian Affairs - Turtle Mountain Agency and Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Assistant United States Attorney David Hagler prosecuted the case.

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